

REMARKS

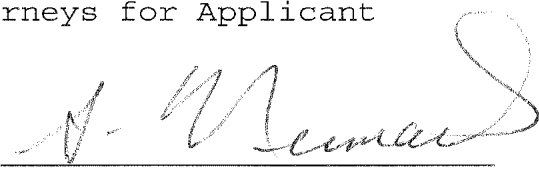
Claim 1 has been amended above, prior to any action on the merits and following applicants' reply on September 22, 2008, to the restriction requirement. In particular, the features of the dependent part of claim 6 have been incorporated into claim 1 (and claim 6 canceled), and also features from claims 2-4 and 10-13, in part. These amendments are made to more precisely focus the claims on the invention taking into account EP 0619313 and U.S. patent 6,143,906 (corresponding to EP 0916662), cited in the International Search Report and the Supplementary European Search Report.

EP 0619313 was cited in an earlier filed IDS. EP 0916662 and EP 1145710 were cited in the corresponding European application on June 20, 2008. U.S. 2002/042380 (Castiel et al) corresponding to EP 1145710, and U. S patent 6,143,906 (corresponding to EP '662) are listed on the attached form BN/SB/08A.

Respectfully submitted,

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